FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 056 *20 March 1980*

ARGENTINA

Pastor: No New Investigations Will Be Accepted B 1
Bolivian Air Force Commander Arrives B 1
Briefs: Brazilian Delegation; ROK Mission Visits; B 1
New Under Secretary

BOLIVIA

Interior Minister Announces He Will Resign C 1
[EL DIARIO 18 Mar]
COB Sets Deadline on Demands to Government C 1
Briefs: Cultural Exchange With USSR C 1

BRAZIL

Sao Paulo Governor Maluf Rumored To Be Plotting Coup D 1
Construction Workers Call Strike in Victoria D 1
Figueiredo Asks Uruguay's Mendez To Free Schilling D 1
Briefs: Mission to Saudi Arabia; Payments Balance D 1

CHILE

Courts Reject Habeas Corpus for Ex-Congressmen E 1
Agenda of Pinochet's Asian Tour Released E 1
Briefs: Cubillos to Japan; Swiss Aircraft E 1

COLOMBIA

Commander Uno Firm on Not Reducing Demands F 1
Correction to Minister's Statement on Terrorism F 2

MEXICO

President Discusses Oil Plans, Admission to GATT M 1
Lopez Portillo Authorizes Crude Sale to Swiss Firm M 1
PEMEX Will Not Indemnify U.S. for Oil Leak M 2
Biggest Oil Deposit Located in Chiapas Jungle M 2
Paper Reveals Existence of Antiguerrilla Unit M 2

PANAMA

Shah's Spokesmen Deny Pressure Exerted on Government N 1
President Royo Refers to Trip to Japan N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Carazo Meets With Robelo and Duarte in San Jose P 1
Central American Situation Analyzed at IAPA Meeting P 1

EL SALVADOR

PDC Confirms Continued Membership in Government P 2
Peasants Occupy Ranch, Demand Distribution of Property P 3
Guerrillas Killed in Attempted Ambush of Army Patrol P 3
Report on Junta Members' 18 Mar News Conference Continues P 4
Junta Member Duarte Criticizes Social Democracy P 5
Majano Says Reforms Seek to Placate Leftists P 5
Columnist Analyzes Army's Repression P 6
[LA CRONICA 18 Mar]
Resistance Forces' Leaders Seek Unified Government P 7
[Madrid EL PAIS 12 Mar]

GUATEMALA

Castillo Comments on Ministers' Meeting in San Jose P 8
Unidentified Persons Machinegun Two Lawyers P 8
FUR Meeting Purges 'Rightist' Leaders P 8

HONDURAS

Perez Denies Nearing Settlement With El Salvador P 9

NICARAGUA

Ortega Flays U.S. Loan Rejection P 10
D'Escoto Comments on Results of Costa Rican Summit P 11
Security Forces Link Counterrevolutionary Plot With CIA P 12
Sergio Ramirez Heads Delegation Visiting Austria P 12
[cross-reference]
Robelo Speaks at IAPA Roundtable on Country's Condition P 12

CUBA

Carter Moves to Lift CIA Restrictions Noted Q 1
Angolan Foreign Minister Meets Carlos Rafael Rodriguez Q 2
President Visits Isle of Youth Q 2
Visits Schoolchildren Q 2
Solidarity With Nicaragua Stressed Q 2
Teachers' Contingent in Angola Commended Q 3
'Critical Spirit' To Prevail at UPEC Congress Q 3

CARIBBEAN

Development of CARICOM Industrial Base Urged S 1
CARICOM Considers Admission of Haiti S 1

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Socialist International Meeting To Be Held 26-29 Mar S 1

GRENADA

Government Reports Jobless Rate Down S 2
[ADVOCATE-NEWS 11 Mar]

JAMAICA

Cultural Exchange Agreements With Cuba Renewed S 2
Manley Meets With Visiting Pierre Trudeau S 3

MARTINIQUE

France Can Meet 'Any Threats' on Troubled Island S 3
[FRANCE-SOIR 14 Mar]

ST KITTS-NEVIS

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Venezuela S 4

PASTOR: NO NEW INVESTIGATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

PY200146 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1759 GMT 19 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpt] Posadas, 19 Mar (TELAM)--Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor stated that there is nothing in Argentina that requires investigation. Its doors are open to anybody who wishes to visit, but no one has a moral or material [material] right to an investigation, therefore we will not accept one.

In statements made in this city a few minutes after his arrival, Minister Pastor also referred to the final report of the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission, saying that he hoped this report would be reviewed and adjusted to the reality of our country, which is quite different from and superior to that shown in the preliminary report.

Pastor added that Argentina has already submitted its answer, which refutes almost the entire report, since it is evident that the investigation was carried out in a subjective manner.

BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER ARRIVES

PY192117 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 19 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Bolivian Air Force Commander Maj Gen Jaime Nino Guzman Quiroz has just arrived in Argentina. He arrived at the metropolitan airport aboard a Bolivian plane and was met by Lt Gen Omar Domingo Rubens Graffigna, Argentine Air Force commander.

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN DELEGATION--Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (TELAM)--A Brazilian delegation made up of the president of the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN), Hervasio G. de Carvallo, and the president of NUCLEBRAS, Paulo Nogueira Batista, arrived in Argentina to discuss nuclear cooperation. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1552 GMT 18 Mar 80 PY]

ROK MISSION VISITS--Rear Adm Carlos Noe Guevara, maritime interest secretary, held a meeting yesterday with a ROK mission headed by the ROK fishing under secretary. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Mar 80 PY]

NEW UNDER SECRETARY--Buenos Aires, 17 Mar (TELAM)--Juan Esteban Dumas has been appointed under secretary of foreign trade, replacing Alberto Grimoldi who is now the secretary of industrial development. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2209 GMT 17 Mar 80 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTER ANNOUNCES HE WILL RESIGN

PY192124 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 1 PY

[Excerpt] Confirming information first reported by EL DIARIO, Interior Minister Jorge Selum announced yesterday that next week he will make official his decision to leave the government. He will hold a press conference during which he will explain fully the reasons for this drastic decision.

Selum Vaca Diez said that although his decision has not yet been conveyed to the chief of state, "I am seriously considering resigning, and next week I will call a press conference to explain the reasons."

When asked if he had been pressured by the army during his administration as interior minister and if this might be one of the reasons for his decision to leave the cabinet, Selum admitted that from the time he assumed his post he has been under pressure from the armed forces intelligence department.

COB SETS DEADLINE ON DEMANDS TO GOVERNMENT

PY191609 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1541 GMT 18 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 18 Mar (LATIN)--A union leader said today that the Bolivian Labor Central [COB] has set a 7-day deadline for the government to answer its labor demands that include a monthly minimum salary of $240.

COB Secretary General Oscar Sanjines told this news agency that the COB cannot wait any longer for an answer to the salary demands that were submitted to the government over a month ago.

Sanjines said: "We cannot wait indefinitely for the government to answer those demands. Therefore, we have decided that the government has until next Tuesday, to issue an answer on the subject or to propose other alternatives that will offer a solution to our problem."

The labor leader said that "it is very difficult for president (Lidia) Gueiler and her cabinet to defend the people's economic interests and at the same time undertake a democratic process through the holding of general elections" scheduled for 29 June.

He added that "because of this, union leaders are constantly warning some labor sectors not to adopt any hasty decisions on strikes or stoppages that may deteriorate the democratic process that the labor class has struggled for."

BRIEFS

CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH USSR--Bolivia and the Soviet Union signed a cultural exchange agreement in the Foreign Ministry yesterday. The agreement covers the exchange of musical and artistic groups, including composers and writers. The Academy of Sciences of Bolivia and the USSR will also exchange scientists for research in the field of astronomy. The USSR will grant 20 scholarships per year to Bolivian students, and the Soviet Pushkin Institute will cooperate in the Russian language program at La Paz University. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 8 PY]

SAO PAULO GOVERNOR MALUF RUMORED TO BE PLOTTING COUP

PY200002 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Mar 80 PY

[Summary] Planalto Palace spokesman (Alexandre Garcia) reported today that Finance Minister Ernane Galveas will testify before the congress on the Rio Doce Valley Company. He also said that there is nothing positive regarding a special session of Congress during the pope's visit.

"The spokesman also stressed that the presidency has no comment on charges published in the press that the governor of Sao Paulo, Paulo Salim Maluf, is presumably organizing a rightist coup."

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS CALL STRIKE IN VITORIA

PY191319 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Contending that they have not been receiving the wages agreed upon in September, 3,000 civil construction workers have called a strike in Vitoria. The strike has paralyzed projects of the following enterprises: (Guaranchan), (Christian and Nielsen) and (Siaki). Although troops have been sent to the area, the workers continue to strike.

FIGUEIREDO ASKS URUGUAY'S MENDEZ TO FREE SCHILLING

PY191320 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 100 GMT 19 Mar 80 PY

[Text] In an official note, Itamaraty has conveyed President Figueiredo's satisfaction over the case of Flavia Schilling, who has been in jail in Uruguay for the past 7 years. The communique states that President Figueiredo has asked his Uruguayan counterpart, Aparicio Mendez, to reconsider Flavia's case for humanitarian reasons. President Mendez's reply was most encouraging, noting that Flavia would be released soon under a law which is now being studied on a priority basis in Uruguay.

BRIEFS

MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA--Itamaraty today sent a mission headed by Paulo Rarso Flexa de Lima, chief of its trade promotion department, to Saudi Arabia. The objective of this mission is to try to obtain special consideration for the participation of companies from Third World countries in projects financed with Arab capital. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Mar 80 p 20 PY]

PAYMENTS BALANCE--Brazil ended 1979 with a balance of payments deficit of $3.21 billion. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Mar 80 p 19 PY]

COURTS REJECT HABEAS CORPUS FOR EX-CONGRESSMEN

FY191521 Paris AFP in Spanish 0514 GMT 19 Mar 80 FY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 18 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean courts have rejected a habeas corpus petition submitted in favor of former congressmen during Allende's regime who were detained in 1975 and 1976.

The petition was submitted in 1979 by lawyer Sergio Fernandez Farias by request of the Interparliamentary Union, a corporation established in Geneva.

Those affected are: Carlos Lorca, Bernardo Araya, Maria Flores, Jorge Munoz, Eduardo Canteros, Clara Canteros, Ivan Sergio Inzunza, Vincente Atencio and Edras Pinto Arroyo.

AGENDA OF PINOCHET'S ASIAN TOUR RELEASED

FY181510 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Mar 80 FY

[Text] The agenda of President Pinochet's trip through several countries of Southeast Asia has been officially disclosed. Next Friday, President Pinochet, his wife and entourage will leave to begin a tour of great importance for Chile's future foreign relations, with special emphasis on trade and cultural relations.

This tour will encompass the Philippines, the Fiji Islands, and French Polynesia. It expresses the desire of the Chilean Government to tighten bonds with Asia and to establish or increase bilateral ties. According to the official agenda, Pinochet and his wife will meet with the Fijian prime minister.

In Manila, Pinochet and his wife will hold talks with President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife. On this occasion the two chiefs of state will exchange speeches, and President Pinochet will receive the keys to the city of Manila. Pinochet will also be granted an honory doctorate by the University of Manila. The agenda of Pinochet's activities in the Philippines also provides for the signing of several accords and agreements which will be favorable to the two nations. The ministers who will accompany President Pinochet will hold talks and working sessions with their counterparts and also sign agreements.

On his way back, President Pinochet will visit Hong Kong, Papeete and Moorea Island. Later he will make a stopover in the Easter Islands to hold brief talks with local officials and evaluate the progress of this Chilean possession in the Pacific Ocean.

BRIEFS

CUBILLOS TO JAPAN--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos confirmed today that he will visit Japan from 31 March-5 April. He plans to travel to Tokyo after accompanying President Augusto Pinochet on his trip to the Philippines. Cubillos' trip to Japan will serve to prepare the details of President Pinochet's visit to Japan scheduled for August this year. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Mar 80 FY]

SWISS AIRCRAFT--The commander of naval aviation has announced that the navy will receive 10 Swiss-made "Pilatus" airplanes next May as part of the armed forces' plan to renew the Navy's materiel. [Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0652 GMT 15 Mar 80 FY]

COMMANDER UNO FIRM ON NOT REDUCING DEMANDS

PA200212 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2341 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 19 Mar (EFE)--The so-called Commander Uno, chief of the 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas who occupied the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, said it is not true that his group has cut back its ransom demand for the release of the hostages or reduced the number of what it calls political prisoners whose release it has asked of the government.

During a telephone conversation with the magazine CROMOS, the guerrilla leader admitted that the M-19 members have had "basic military training; they know the military ABCs." At the same time he insisted that the M-19 members must be tried by civilians and not in military courts.

Commander Uno said it is "possible" the M-19 is part of the left wing but he added: "We respect the position of the leftwing groups but we do not agree with them."

Asked if it is true they have agreed to decrease the ransom originally requested ($50 million) and the number of "political" prisoners whose release they are asking for, he replied: "No, that is totally false. So far the government has refused to meet our demands. In the five meetings we have held, it has talked about a thousand things and forgotten our demands. In a dilatory provocative manner, we have not been given a reply."

Asked to specify the kind of "popular democracy" the M-19 claims to want, the terrorist said that it is that democracy in which the people participate and that, without citing Russia, Cuba or China, he might cite the examples of "popular democracy in Austria which is a neutral government and Nicaragua with its pluralist system."

"There is no control over the Mafia here in Colombia. The security statute was created and so there are political prisoners. Yet the streets are full of mafiosi who live freely."

The chieftain of the embassy occupiers refuted a question on the "intransigence" of which they have been accused during the course of the negotiations.

He replied: "No. We contend that there are more than 1,000 political prisoners in Colombia. Dr Turbay said during his tour of Europe that he is the only political prisoner. Therefore we want to show the public that the political prisoners exist. Look at the concession we are making; out of over 1,000 prisoners we presented a list of 311."

The guerrilla cited the case of two individuals belonging to other organizations who were sentenced to 18 years in prison. One of them has spent 15 years and the other one 17 years in prison. He wonders why the government has not pardoned them.

CROMOS pointed out that they are homicidal. He countered: "We think the trials are fixed. Just imagine, the M-19 members were picked up by the military and it is the military that is going to try them."

"Therefore we say: Torturers and assassins cannot try us. Nowhere in the world are civilians tried by the military. They have to be tried by civilians."

He said the other M-19 members must have confidence in them and they will keep in mind the watchword to win or die.

Commander Uno said he is not an M-19 leader but the commander of the embassy operation. He was selected by the "general staff" of the movement which includes "men and women of our people."

He added that he has been given full power over this operation and he seemed certain that if he orders his fellow adventurers to die they will obey him. However, he added: "But that order will be given by the government. If the government barges in here, we will all die and that will not be my fault but the government's."

Toward the end of the interview, Commander Uno denied the report that they received $1 million in exchange for the release of the Austrain ambassador and he reiterated that they have not reduced their demands.

"No, I cannot make concessions if the government has not dealt with the problem. I would be wrong to cut back the demands if the government has not [as received] talked to me about the law and the Colombian Constitution and we have told the government that we are not interested in bourgeois legality."

CORRECTION TO MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON TERRORISM

The following correction to the item entitled "Government Minister: People Reject Terrorism," published in the 13 March Latin America DAILY REPORT, F 2, should be made:

Page F 2, Dropped sourceline and processing indicator should read PA101733 Bogota Cadrena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text]

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES OIL PLANS, ADMISSION TO GATT

PA191820 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2254 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[By Jose Carreno]

[Text] Guadalajara, Mexico, 18 Mar (EFE)--President Jose Lopez Portillo today launched an "integral program" for Mexico's economic development based on its oil resources.

In a genuinely nationalistic vein, the Mexican president said oil will serve as the basis for a project that will give the country the ability to grow at a yearly rate of 8 percent, become industrialized, provide more jobs and supply its own food.

Thinking that it would not be advisable for the country right now, he announced that Mexico will not join GATT although the negotiations had been very favorable to the country.

Lopez Portillo stated that his country will establish a "consolidated program" in producing oil. Oil production will total about 2.7 million barrels a day until 1981. That figure will be 10 percent higher than the original goal of between 2.25 and 2.5 million barrels a day, which will be achieved this year.

Lopez Portillo asked workers to produce that additional percentage so as to meet any "added risk" that might arise and to insure the supply of exports which will be maintained at 1,105,000 barrels per day. This will free domestic funds to be used in other priority areas such as food production, infrastructure and employment.

Lopez Portillo said his government had to opt for development despite inflation. In spite of everything, this will result in the achievement of an economic growth rate of 8 percent, he said. He admitted that inflation is out of control and will be curbed only by increasing production. He said that through the "integral program" which will be disclosed soon, the employment rate is expected to rise 4 percent a year.

Regarding the subsidy policy, he said it is not possible for national industry, which has cheap energy resources and fiscal stimuli, not to be able to compete with foreign industry. Lopez Portillo added that subsidies will be redistributed, notably to take national needs into consideration, to redirect agrarian reform and to avoid the detouring of funds to sectors that are obsolete or benefit those who do not need it. Therefore, he added, Mexico will not join GATT since that would not provide the protection needed for national development. However, he said that admission to GATT has been postponed and he left the door open for possible entry in the future.

LOPEZ PORTILLO AUTHORIZES CRUDE SALE TO SWISS FIRM

PA122202 Paris AFP in Spanish 0531 GMT 12 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Mar (AFP)--Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo today authorized Mexican Petroleum to handle the purchase of crude by a Swiss oil enterprise, it was learned here today. Khalil Ghattas, representative of the Swiss firm, made the announcement following a meeting with Lopez Portillo. Switzerland, Ghattas said, seeks to resolve through the purchase of Mexican petroleum its current energy deficit. However, he did not indicate the amount of petroleum the European country will buy from Mexico.

PEMEX WILL NOT INDEMNIFY U.S. FOR OIL LEAK

PA182043 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0110 GMT 17 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (EFE)--Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of MEXICAN PETROLEUM [PEMEX], has stated that Mexico will not indemnify the United States for alleged damages caused by a leak in the Ixtoc well.

According to reports disseminated today, Diaz Serrano said that there is no knowledge in this country of a U.S. claim for damages. Press reports have repeatedly claimed that the U.S. Government or U.S. private companies are planning to sue Mexico for alleged damages caused by a leak in the Ixtoc well. The PEMEX director states "that there is no international regulation for this type of accident. Therefore, we must abide by Mexican laws and legal principles." Diaz Serrano reiterated that the leak in the Ixtoc well has already been controlled as far as crude oil spillage into the ocean is concerned, and that at present there is only a gas leak.

The well has been out of control for the past 9 months.

BIGGEST OIL DEPOSIT LOCATED IN CHIAPAS JUNGLE

PA191226 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The biggest oil deposit found in the Republic of Mexico to date is in the Lacandona jungle, Chiapas State, Mexican Petroleum has reported. The finds at well 30 of Trinitaria 1 and 2 and on the Guatemala border were taken into consideration to make certain of the location of the deposit.

PAPER REVEALS EXISTENCE OF ANTIGUERRILLA UNIT

PA191901 Paris AFP in Spanish 1832 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Mar (AFP)--The existence of a 2000-man paramilitary group to fight urban guerrillas in a province bordering on the capital of the country was revealed today by the Mexican newspaper UNO MAS UNO. The group is known as Los Negros, but its official name is Mexico State Radio Patrol Battalion [Batallon de Radiopatrullas del Estado de Mexico--BARAPEM].

The members of BARAPEM have an average age of 24 years and according to the newspaper, some of them have had a high school education. One sector of the group is commanded by former military personnel. One BARAPEM commander told UNO MAS UNO: We try to teach the boys to love the fatherland, as we were taught. That is our duty and we must fulfill it.

The paper says that, to carry out their tasks, the members of BARAPEM are equipped with helmets with masks, gas cannisters, electric prods (like the cattle prods used in the United States), a club, a shield and hand grenades. They may also use a weapon called a sprinkler that forms smoke or tear gas screens, 12-caliber shotguns and 357-magnum revolvers. The equipment is completed by 9-millimeter machineguns and automobiles adapted for pursuit in urban or rural areas.

Mexico State practically sourr unds the urban area of Mexico City. The paper says the BARAPEM members are trained to assist the police in the capital in emergencies.

SHAH'S SPOKESMEN DENY PRESSURE EXERTED ON GOVERNMENT

PA190446 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Spokesmen of former Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi today denied that former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger or the president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, David Rockefeller, had exerted any pressure over Panamanian authorities to permit U.S. physicians to participate in a potential operation on the former ruler.

This television station said yesterday that the operation was to be performed by Dr Michael DeBakey and not a team of 15 Panamanian physicians. The report added that repeated telephone calls from Kissinger and Rockefeller were part of such pressures to permit Dr DeBakey, who arrived in Panama on Saturday, to operate on the former shah.

From Contadora Island, however, the spokesmen of the former shah, Robert Armao and Mark Morse, denied and disregarded the reports. Morse limited his comment to saying that the television reports were ridiculous and said there were no calls from Kissinger or Rockefeller.

Armao in turn said the former shah has the right to choose his doctors, just as any sick person has, and he had picked Dr Michael DeBakey. The surgeon was accepted by the government and the Panamanian Medical Corps merely as an observer and consultant.

The relations between the two medical groups were of mutual respect, Armao said, denying the reports about the heated discussion between the two medical teams.

According to Mario Velasquez, news director of this television station, a Panamanian doctor has revealed details of the verbal clash that took place upon the arrival of Dr Michael DeBakey, who was accompanied by a team of 10 medical and paramedical assistants from Houston, with instruments and all.

The pressures, according to the reports, were also felt by the U.S. Embassy in Panama and the Panamanian Government, but the embassy supported the position of the Paitilla clinic staff and the Panamanian Government of only authorizing the participation of Dr DeBakey as observer and consultant. Paul Saxton, spokesman of the U.S. Embassy, was questioned on the issue by the Associated Press, but just said: no comment.

The former shah, in view of the indecisions of the doctors as to whether to perform surgery on him, decided to leave the clinic on Sunday, Velasquez said, without permitting any examination, not even a sample of his blood. This is not true, said spokesman Morse, when a written report of the television account was read to him by phone. Morse added that the rooms occupied by the former shah at Paitilla clinic was so crowded by doctors who attended him that the place resembled Grand Central Station. Questioned about the reports, the clinic administrator, Rodrigo Moreno, said the medical center had no comment to make.

To us, the information concerning this case ended with the departure of Mr Pahlavi from the hospital, said spokesman Morse.

Told about the statements of the spokesmen of the former shah to the Associated Press, Velasquez said it was to be expected that Armao and Morse would deny the facts revealed by Televisora Nacional last night. Velasquez added that the report released last night, and picked up by several international news agencies, is correct and true in every word.

It is impossible to expect that the spokesmen of the deposed ruler would reveal that Kissinger and Rockefeller had intervened and pressured this case in the manner in which they did, concluded our news director, Mario Velasquez.

PRESIDENT ROYO REFERS TO TRIP TO JAPAN

PA200412 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by President Aristides Royo at dedication ceremony of Cabo Verde housing project in Panama City on 18 March--recorded]

[Text] We need to open new job sources. It is the responsibility of the government and private enterprise to make this possible. There is a problem in Panama of which I wish to refer on this occasion and that is the number of unemployed women we have. This could be partly blamed on the large percentage of irresponsible men in our country. It is true; it is something we cannot hide and which must be denounced. There are so many irresponsible men, who instead of taking care of their family have transferred the responsibility to women who must act as father and mother in their homes. [applause]

Take, for instance, the case at Felipillo sugarcane mill, where there are 1,000 jobs available for Panamanians who want to work but nobody wants to cut sugarcane. In other countries like Peru, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Mexico, there are people working in the sugarcane mills cutting sugarcane. As I said, there are 1,000 jobs available for strong Panamanians to go and cut sugarcane. They will be paid over $120, which is the minimum paid to sugarcane cutters. There are some cutters who earn as much as 200, 240 and 280 balboas monthly. For this reason I say that the problem is not just a shortage of jobs. It is also the lack of interest of some Panamanians, who do not want to sweat it out by doing a good day's work.

On 1 April, I am going to address the nation with some announcements of a political, social and economic nature. It has been said that we are going to build a sea-level canal. That is not true. During our trip to Japan we are going to talk with the Japanese about a sea-level canal. When we return I will let you know what we have done. If an agreement is reached, it could possibly be on a study to determine the possibility of building a sea level canal which does not commit the Republic of Panama in any way. This study will determine if a sea-level one is good or not for Panama. Rest assured that if this study is carried out it will only be to establish if it is worthwhile to build a sea-level canal. I also can say that Panamanians will participate in making these studies. We will apply the same medicine we gave Dr DeBakey and the gringos who came to perform an operation on the former shah and whom we told that Panamanian doctors were just as good as they are. This is what we are going to do. [applause]

The law is firm, but it does not strangle. We are not trying to strangle anyone here, who truly does not have a job, but those who have one must pay their debts. They must pay for the house in which they live because it is the only way more houses can be built. The construction of more houses will depend on you. When I return from Japan I will talk to you again, thank you. [applause]

COSTA RICA

CARAZO MEETS WITH ROBELO AND DUARTE IN SAN JOSE

PA191159 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The president of the republic, Rodrigo Carazo, held a joint meeting today with the member of the Nicaraguan Government, Alfonso Robelo, and the leader of the Salvadoran Christian Democracy, Jose Napoleon Duarte.

The Costa Rican chief of state spoke with the two leaders, who are attending the IAPA meeting in San Jose, about topics related to the current situation affecting the Central American isthmus.

CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION ANALYZED AT IAPA MEETING

PA191240 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2322 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[By Felix Pacho]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Big-power interventionism and the Central American countries' dependence on foreign trade were basic issues analyzed today by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio at a conference on the Central American political, economic and social crisis.

The conference was organized by the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) and included delegations from Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Honduras and Guatemala did not accept the IAPA's invitation.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, Panamanian Christian Democratic Party member and outstanding opposition leader, strongly criticized the Torrijos-Carter treaties, whose implementation has cuased, he said, "serious frustration among Panamanians." He referred to the need to build a sea-level canal to overcome the existing problems.

Arias Calderon said Christian Democracy in Panama is more of a formality and theory than real, because "the Panamanian Constitution was drafted to suit the wishes of one man," Omar Torrijos, who temporarily stepped aside, presumably to allow Aristides Royo to be president and to allow some democratic freedoms.

Arias Calderon accused the Panamanian regime of being authoritarian and repressive. He criticized the executive, legislative and judicial branches for their "close collaboration with the National Guard. Some Panamanians simply do not want to admit that we are facing the most serious crisis in the history of our country. Let us not confuse the duration of a dictatorship with stability, as occurred with Nicaragua," Arias Calderon said.

"We realize that what is occurring in Nicaragua will have repercussions in Central America and in other parts of the world," said Alfonso Robelo, a member of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, representing Nicaragua's private sector. Robelo said some of the objectives of the Nicaraguan Government are:

Democratic legislation granting all citizens the right to vote and legalization of all political parties, regardless of their ideology, except for those who would try to revive Somozism.

To broaden the government's legislative functions before 4 May with the appointment of a council of state in which political parties, trade unions, the church, the university, peoples organizations and others will participate.

Trade union freedom.

To increase the independent character of our foreign policy, starting new diplomatic relations, but safeguarding Nicaragua's autonomy and self-determination. To establish a mixed economy which clearly outlines public and private participation and establishment of enterprises with the participation of both sectors.

To promote the economic reactivation plan.

To renegotiate the foreign debt, which amounts to $1.6 billion and which could be increased in order to improve the country's economy. "We are the first revolutionary regime to recognize the foreign debt of the regime it overthrew, with the exception of the arms ordered by Somoza."

Progressive fiscal reform.

To guarantee private property not included in the nationalized sectors (most of foreign trade, banks and financial organizations, insurance companies, mines, the timber industry and Somozist ranches).

"We reiterate our respect for the declaration of human rights," Robelo said. He explained that there could be individual cases in which rights have been violated, but that should not be surprising in a country which has lived through 40 years of Somozist despotism and which is not going through a postrevolutionary period of popular fervor.

He assured the meeting that the law on the news media guarantees freedom of expression and indicated that the Nicaraguan Journalists Union and the Radio Correspondents Union of Managua are in charge of seeing that this law is followed. We can say that we have succeeded and that we can serve as an example to Central America when justice is done without hurting liberty.

Robelo admitted that 1,200 Cubans are participating in the literacy campaign and about 100 teachers from Spain, and that 200,000 persons will participate in the campaign to teach more than 800,000 Nicaraguans (52 percent of the population) to read.

EL SALVADOR

PDC CONFIRMS CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN GOVERNMENT

PA192219 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0221 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party (PDC) today confirmed that it will remain a part of the government coalition with the armed forces of this Central American country.

Rumors of a possible withdrawal of the PDC from the coalition have spread following the resignation of several of its most important leaders, including former junta member Hector Dada Hirezi. Ten members of a so-called "popular tendency" of the PDC were expelled from the party during a recent national convention shortly after Dada resigned from his post in the junta.

"There are no longer divergencies within the PDC. If they existed it was because persons with viewpoints differing from those of the majority did not prevail and, becoming desperate, they took what is perhaps the easiest way out--resignation," said Guillermo Antonio Guevara, a member of the PDC leadership. Guevara is also attorney general of the republic. He added that the 17 persons who resigned or were expelled "made proposals to the party rank and file and received no support. I would not call this situation a crisis, since the party is solidly organized at this time," Guevara added.

He said the PDC leadership did not consider the events in El Salvador on Monday, when 58 persons were killed, as being instances of repression. "We have to make a distinction between acts of repression and acts in defense of the revolutionary regime," the PDC leadership said.

The PDC came to power on 9 January after having signed a pact with the armed forces to carry out a number of structural changes which include agrarian reform, nationalization of private banks and state control of foreign trade in agricultural and sea products.

PEASANTS OCCUPY RANCH, DEMAND DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY

PA191722 Paris AFP in Spanish 1602 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Mar (AFP)--A group of armed peasants occupied the Penaralapa Ranch today in Chalatenango Department, some 80 km north of this city. The peasants demanded the distribution of the property.

The occupation occurred in the same zone where 2 days ago security corps and peasants clashed for similar reasons. Over 20 persons were killed at the La Colima Ranch, during that incident. The peasants said they belong to a leftist peasant organization and that the invasion of the ranch, of over 1,000 hectares, is to express their rejection of the government-promoted cooperative projects.

The army is urging the peasants to leave the Penaralapa Ranch peacefully and avoid a violent eviction.

The agrarian reform project promoted by the Salvadoran government junta, within which the expropriation of the Colima and Penaralapa ranches has been decreed, intends to pass into peasant hands large landholdings without breaking productive units. This program does not seem to have the endorsement of its beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the Texas Instrument transistor factory was evacuated today by a group of workers who had occupied it demanding salary increases.

The factory, whose production is exported exclusively to foreign markets, remains under police protection.

GUERRILLAS KILLED IN ATTEMPTED AMBUSH OF ARMY PATROL

PA192024 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1924 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 19 Mar (LATIN)--Twelve leftist guerrillas were killed today during a clash with security forces near this capital as violence continues in El Salvador.

The 12 extremists, members of the so-called Armed Forces of National Resistance, were killed while attempting to ambush an army patrol on the outskirts of San Martin, 14 km east of San Salvador, reported a military spokesman who did not reveal further details of the incident.

Meanwhile, the bodies of four persons with bullet wounds in their heads were found today on the banks of Lake Ilopango, just 2 km from the site of the ambush, said police sources.

Since the ruling civilian-military junta decreed agrarian and monetary reforms in the first week of March to overcome the threat of civil war between rightist and leftist groups, about 120 persons have been killed for political reasons in this country.

In the past 3 days the number of victims was around 70.

In addition, groups of peasants today seized the Penaraleta Ranch 65 km north of this capital to protest against the agrarian reforms. Troops were immediately dispatched to the area and a spokesman of the Ministry of Defense warned the peasants that they must withdraw peacefully or be expelled by force.

REPORT ON JUNTA MEMBERS' 18 MAR NEWS CONFERENCE CONTINUES

PA192138 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt of Salvadoran junta news conference held at Presidential House on 18 March 1980--recorded]

[Text] [Question by newsman Guillermo Penate Zambrano of EL DIARIO DE HOY] Gentlemen of the junta, during a visit to Mexico and the United States Dr Hector Dada Hirezi and Dr Ruben Zamora have made some charges against the Salvadoran Government junta. They have said it is (?allowing) the U.S. Government to interfere and that there are 36 U.S. military officers training the Salvadoran Army to repress the people. Since you have said international reports are sometimes misrepresented, the question has arisen that sometimes some former government members also release information that affects national stability. In turn, a report published in San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA recently attributed statements to Colonel Majano to the effect that the reforms were being undertaken in our country due to pressure from the communist or extreme leftwing groups. I would like you to address yourselves to this. Thank you.

[Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich] I want to tell you that this government and I personally will never accept political guidelines from the United States of America. We are aware of the two imperialisms existing in the world right now and we are aware of our geopolitical position but what we want is self-sustained development that is as independent as possible--as if in today's world anyone could claim to be completely independent. We disagree, however, with any foreign country's interference in Salvadoran politics. That answers your question. Regarding the military aspects you mentioned, I want to tell you that the only aid received is $5 million which will be used to purchase communications and transportation equipment. There is no U.S. military group in the country now giving counterinsurgency training. There is a small group teaching the armed forces how to handle sophisticated equipment. I want to tell you that military aid can be given by any country and if it comes from the United States of America, I am not surprised. We have received communications and transportation assistance and a loan from the United States and could have received it from Russia, Israel or whoever wants to give it. The important thing is for us internally to do what our people really want, and our people do not want us to yield to any foreign group or hegemonic power. This is what we are working on.

This accounts for the real support we are receiving for the banking and agrarian reforms. We are not doing it with any sort of discrimination or qualms. The land is being taken over and given to the peasants living on it whatever their affiliation, religion or political leaning. The people who live near the farms are also being called in and we don't care if they belong to a group or are independent. Everyone is entitled to participate in the agrarian reform. Why? Because we want to be independent and not accept guidelines. I can tell you that we will never agree that reforms such as these were carried out because of pressure from any foreign country.

[Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano Ramos] The reforms achieved so far--others may follow--are due to the needs of our people. They have voiced those needs in various ways. Some union groups have made demands of the government before noting their needs. Other union groups have done the same thing with their respective authorities. One way or another we know what our people want and that is what the government is responding to now.

The armed forces are participating in the government with the awareness of what those needs are. Therefore it is clear that this process is due to our concern, the concern of our people but not of any sector or political faction. In the specific case of these reforms, if it has been said that they are being done through pressure from the Communist Party, that is completely false. That is not what is happening with the development of the government program. I am not surprised though, because in some cases the news has been misrepresented or documents have been maliciously falsified to try to confuse our people. Therefore it is clear that the 15 October movement in which the armed forces participation [corrects himself] are participating and that the current government, which reflects the concerns of the various sectors and political and social trends in the country--as you can surmise from the government makeup--is simply aware of of what the Salvadoran people want and responds to all their needs, not to any political faction.

JUNTA MEMBER DUARTE CRITICIZES SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

PA191732 Paris AFP in Spanish 1845 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 18 Mar (AFP)--In statements published by the local press here today, Jose Napoleon Duarte, a member of the Salvadoran Government junta, accused the Salvadoran Social Democracy of being at the service of extreme leftwing groups.

Duarte, the top leader of the Salvadoran Christian Democracy, said that Social Democracy, a political group which formed part of the first junta after the overthrow of General Romero, left the Salvadorans with only two alternatives--the extreme rightwing or the extreme left wing--when it withdrew from the government.

Duarte added that the Salvadoran Social Democracy headed by the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) sought an absolute and immediate solution of El Salvador's problems. He added that this is why that political group has practically disappeared from his country's political panorama.

Nevertheless, Duarte said the Salvadoran Christian Democracy has asked Social Democracy to participate in the government and work in the solution of problems.

Social democracy withdrew from the junta in January due to charges that the government was turning to the right. The Christian Democratic Party headed by Duarte then joined the junta. Duarte said El Salvador was at a knife's edge, in a state of civil disobedience and at the brink of civil war when his group decided to participate in the government.

Duarte indicated that the goal of the current Salvadoran leaders is to achieve the country's democratization and pacification by making social changes.

MAJANO SAYS REFORMS SEEK TO PLACATE LEFT 'S

PA191758 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1649 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The recent reforms adopted by the Salvadoran revolutionary junta were intended to placate leftist groups, according to statements made by junta member Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, and published by the Honduran paper LA PRENSA today.

The statements were made to a special correspondent of the Honduran paper's sports section who approached Majano as he was visiting an expropriated estate in La Libertad Department.

"If the leftist organizations resume their bad habits the government will have no choice but to severely punish violators of the law, since the army is prepared to defend the interests of the Salvadoran people," Majano added.

Majano made it clear that agrarian reform, the nationalization of banking and a number of other reforms planned by the revolutionary junta "were the banners for the leftist forces' struggle."

The junta member also said the reforms being carried out by his government "cannot be done overnight. The people know that we will do them slowly but surely, because the armed forces remain firmly committed to the resolution of the problems afflicting the nation." Majano also said: "I can prove to the entire world that I am not a member of any communist party."

COLUMNIST ANALYZES ARMY'S REPRESSION

PA200249 San Salvador LA CRONICA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[By Juan O. Tamayo]

[Text] Salvadoran rightists are using two weapons simultaneously against their leftist enemies: progressive reforms to deprive them of the people's support and the assassination of their staunchest opponents.

"Some people must die as result of the strong measures we need to restore normality in the country. This is better than the 240,000 victims that would die in a civil war," a government spokesman said recently.

A Catholic organization defending human rights last week reported that the National Guard and repressive rightist groups killed 660 persons during the 2 first months of this year. This represents an average of 10 persons killed every day. In 1979 the average was three dead per day.

On 6 March, 31 bodies were found on the highway, the day after the government ordered the expropriation of all estates of more than 500 hectares to deliver them to the peasants and the day before bank nationalization.

The moderate civilian-military junta, which is strongly supported by the U.S. Government, is hoping that the reforms will reduce the support given to the leftists who are struggling to eliminate the big gap between the rich and the poor in the country.

In order to face the recalcitrant Marxists and cool the political situation, the junta also decreed a state of siege and prohibited the publication of news of violence for political reasons and also political communiques.

"This is repression. In other words, reform with repression," a moderate businessman indicated pessimistically. He added that this would bring a few months of relative peace but not much more. "For each student, worker and peasant murdered by the government, two more will join our ranks," a leftist leader recently said at a funeral of two students who were beaten to death.

The leftists say that Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia is the leader of the rightist sector of the armed forces, which is blamed for most of the deaths of worker, student and peasant leftist leaders. Although Colonel Garcia is under the junta formed by two colonels of the armed forces, two politician members of the Christian Democratic Party, and one independent, it is being said that, in fact, he is the one who rules in the country and not the junta.

Several political parties have accused the junta of being controlled by Garcia and this was the reason why some members of the first junta decided to resign. However, the Christian Democratic Party agreed to form part of the government on 4 January after it had been promised that there would be no more deaths, but nothing was said about dismissing Colonel Garcia and other rightist army officers.

A National Guard commander has said the government has implemented the reforms to improve the lives of the poor who grow old working in rural areas in the midst of poverty. "If the communists do not stop attacking us and agitating, the only solution is going to be something like what happened in Chile and Argentina."

RESISTANCE FORCES' LEADERS SEEK UNIFIED GOVERNMENT

LD181405 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 12 Mar 80 p 6 LD

[J.A. Eumont interview in San Salvador with Popular Liberation Front leader Marcial, Armed Forces of National Resistance leader Fernan Cienfuego: "Popular Revolutionary Government, Aim of United Salvadoran Guerrilla Movement"--date not specified]

[Text] The Carter administration has decided to support and assist the Salvadoran army. U.S. officials believe that "the seizure of power by the leftwing forces in El Salvador would throw the region into turmoil and provoke Marxist revolutions in Guatemala and Honduras." According to another U.S. State Department report, "the impact of the recent events in Nicaragua is being reflected in the countries of the area; even without Nicaragua, the situation would be explosive; social pressures are making change inevitable; the basic question is not whether change will occur but what that change will be like."

In this extremely unstable situation fueled by the economic crisis and the violence in this small Latin American country, we have met with the top leaders of the Salvadoran guerrilla movement, who recently "united their forces in order to carry through the final stage of the struggle." The assignment took place under conditions of the utmost secrecy in the Salvadoran capital.

End Dictatorships

"The greatest lesson taught by the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua is that unity among the people's forces can end dictatorships, however cruel and bloodthirsty they may be. The principal revolutionary forces of El Salvador, represented here by their top leaders, have carried through a lengthy and difficult process in the struggle for peace and progress. We have held lengthy talks aimed at coordinating and uniting our forces, and we can announce today that we have reached agreements of the utmost importance for our country's future."

With these words from the guerrillas' spokesman, the interview began. The top leaders of the Popular Liberation Front, Farabundo Marti (FPL), the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) and the Salvadoran Community Party (PCS) were present. All the guerrillas were hooded and heavily armed.

Question: What kind of agreements shape the unity of the now united revolutionary organizations?

Marcial (FPL): It exists within the framework of a coordination of our respective organizations' top leaderships to enable us to formulate joint tactics and strategy in a gradual process. On this basis increasing joint practice will be achieved, until we succeed in setting up a single political and military leadership for the entire people's revolutionary movement. The path of unity is complex, but we believe that we have sufficient maturity to tackle any difficulty.

Question: How many people can the three organizations together mobilize?

Fernan Cienfuego (FARN): I could not give an exact figure, but we believe over 200,000 people. When we speak of such a number we are referring to fighting masses, militias and guerrillas. They are not regular fighters.

Question: What are the joint strategic aims pursued by the united organizations?

Fernan Cienfuego (FARN): The aim which has been set and on which the organizations present agree is the attainment of a people's revolutionary government.

GUATEMALA

CASTILLO COMMENTS ON MINISTERS MEETING IN SAN JOSE

PA191654 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez has commented on his meeting with the foreign ministers of the isthmus in San Jose, Costa Rica. He noted that after 8 years during which this type of rapprochement for the purpose of discussing matters of common interest for the Central American countries had not taken place, the San Jose meeting has had positive results for Guatemala since the integrationist aspirations of the people were restated and Guatemala's rights over the territory of Belize were reaffirmed.

There were discussions on important aspects of energy. The Central American countries will adopt a common position to obtain guarantees on the supplying of energy and on the fixing of reasonable prices that will not greatly affect the economy of the Central American countries.

They also discussed new mechanisms for representing their common economic interests, as in the case of the Union of Banana Exporting Countries, of which Guatemala is a member, so that this international organization may adopt positions of pressure in its negotiations with consumer nations to obtain better prices in the international market.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS MACHINEGUN TWO LAWYERS

PA200424 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0318 GMT 20 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The lawyers Roberto Sisniega and Javier Duque were killed in the Guatemalan capital tonight by unidentified persons who machinegunned them and then fled. The murder took place as the two lawyers were passing in front of the Government Palace in a Mercedes Benz driven by Sisniega. Eyewitnesses reported that the two lawyers were shot by armed men traveling on two motorcycles. The two lawyers were professors at the San Carlos University. Police on guard at the palace heard the shooting and police contingents have been sent to look for the assailants.

FUR MEETING PURGES 'RIGHTIST' LEADERS

PA181934 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1655 GMT 17 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 17 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A purge of its leaders was the result of the leadership struggle within Guatemala's United Revolutionary Front [FUR], a legal leftist democratic party.

It was reported today that a "district majority of delegates from all over the country," who gathered yesterday for a special general meeting called by some members of the National Directorate, agreed to request the resignation of FUR Secretary General Carlos Morales Cordero.

Leaders Carlos Duarte and Miguel Angel Andrino must also resign, along with Morales Cordero. All were accused of being "the rightwing in the party." In addition to being asked to resign, they were given a vote of censure.

At present Americo Cifuentes Rivas, also a lawyer and the party's public relations secretary, is rising as the new leader of the organization, which was legalized in January as the latest of four new political groups.

The meeting also agreed that the FUR will participate in local elections scheduled for April in 298 municipalities, and to request the government to cease repression and disband what it calls "parliamentary criminal gangs."

It also demanded that several missing persons be presented and that Government and Interior Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz, National Police Chief German Chupina Barahona and secret police Chief Manuel De Jesus Valiente Telles resign.

The FUR describes them as "incapable of restraining or stopping the wave of violence which is affecting the country's democratic sectors."

HONDURAS

PEREZ DENIES NEARING SETTLEMENT WITH EL SALVADOR

PA141248 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Mar 80 PA

[Report by special envoy Guillermo Castellanos on 12 March from San Jose, Costa Rica--recorded]

[Text] The newspaper LA NACION from San Jose, Costa Rica, reports that Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso yesterday said that a final settlement with El Salvador is not near. The paper says that Perez Cadalso and his Salvadoran colleague, Fidel Chavez Mena, yesterday held a third round of talks with the participation of delegates from both countries. The talks were held in an effort to speed up negotiations which would normalize relations between the two countries which were suspended 11 years ago as result of a war.

According to LA NACION, Perez Cadalso said that diplomatic relations cannot be established between the two countries until the seven points of the mediation agreement are approved according to what the OAS consulting organization decided. Five of the seven points have already been approved which deal with peace and treaties, human rights and families, free transit, claims and diplomatic and consular relations, LA NACION reported. The two remaining points, which have not been approved, deal with very delicate issues such as the Central American market and territorial borders.

Perez Cadalso's position regarding the mediation process is in essence the same as the Carias-Castillo concept which suggests that the problem should receive global treatment, in other words, that none of the points which have already been approved can be unilaterally or jointly implemented until all seven points are approved.

Perez Cadalso said that because of the complex nature of the points which are still pending--the border problem and the common market--a final settlement is not close. Meanwhile, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Chavez Mena pointed out that the agreement made in principle to resume diplomatic and consular relations does not necessarily mean that this will take place immediately.

He added that a system or mechanism has to be established toward this end and that this process would continue with the negotiation on the other two points. Finally, Chavez Mena announced that he and Perez Cadalso will leave for Peru once the Central American foreign ministers meeting in San Jose is over this Sunday.

They will tell Jose Luis Bustamente Rivero, the mediator in the Salvadoran-Honduran conflict, of the progress made during the bilateral meetings in San Jose.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA PLAYS U.S. LOAN REJECTION

PA200338 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2051 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Comdr Daniel Ortega Saavedra, member of the Nicaraguan Government junta, said today that there are U.S. senators who "look upon us as dogs" when they play "with the Nicaraguan people's hunger."

In reply to a question by ACAN-EFE news agency about the goals set by the [words indistinct] and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] regarding international aid for Nicaragua, Ortega commented on the U.S. Congress' refusal to grant a $75 million loan to Nicaragua. Ortega, who has just returned from a tour of Venezuela, Europe, and the Caribbean, said there are "Yankee senators" who are acting like people who show meat to a dog, but do not give it to him. He said there are people in the United States who want to help Latin Americans, but there are also some senators who "offend our dignity" by their attitude.

"Many people say that we should take out the words 'Yankees, enemies of mankind' from our Sandinist anthem, but we believe that while those senators exist, those words should remain," he said. He said that the United States, by not granting the loan, is being "compared with the play 'The Great Torture'" because everyone knows that the United States can afford to grant the loan.

At a press conference at the Government House today Ortega Saavedra said the United States, "instead of granting us a $1 billion loan to repay the damage it has done to Nicaragua throughout the years, is refusing us a loan." Ortega Saavedra said, "all this gives us sound reasons for rejecting the loan and showing Latin American countries that the United States has not changed."

He said that delegations of the government junta and the FSLN are going all over the world seeking international aid for Nicaragua. The main goal of these efforts seeking aid for Nicaragua, he said, "is to lessen the sacrifices Nicaraguans have to make to revitalize their economy and increase production." Much has to be done to achieve national reconstruction, and in the meantime many people are facing hunger and unemployment. He said that with increased international aid to Nicaragua, "the sacrifice will be less costly" for those who lack jobs, money, housing, health and education.

In Ortega's opinion, the United States should also help Nicaragua. He said, "the United States should help with millions of dollars to pay for the harm it has done, instead of adopting aggressive positions."

Ortega went to Venezuela, Brazil, Italy, Panama, Grenada, Cuba, and Jamaica seeking aid for Nicaragua. Another mission, headed by Sergio Ramirez Mercado, another member of the junta, is visiting West European countries. Moises Hassan, and Commanders Tomas Borge, Henry Ruiz, and Humberto Ortega Saavedra are visiting socialist bloc countries.

He said that when he met with Pope John Paul II on behalf of the government, he invited the pope to visit Nicaragua. The pope said that if he visited Nicaragua, other small countries "might be upset" if he does not visit them.

Ortega Saavedra told the pope, "we believe that if you visit Nicaragua, other small nations would feel honored." He said that the pope's trip remained unsettled.

D'ESCOTO COMMENTS ON RESULTS OF COSTA RICAN SUMMIT

PA191214 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Jose--The Central American countries, Panama included, gathered in the Costa Rican capital and decided to fully support [words indistinct] the Nicaraguans' standard of living. The area's foreign ministers also agree with the Nicaraguan Government's just desire to renegotiate its foreign debt with the international credit organizations. Press circles expect the foreign ministers to release a document today, which most probably will be called the San Jose Declaration and will detail the agreements reached primarily in the area of energy cooperation.

According to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, from now on, the foreign ministries will no longer refer to the Central American isthmus and Panama. Any reference to Central America will include Panama as an indivisible part of the area. This summit meeting of Central American foreign ministers is the first held this year. However, these meetings have been institutionalized and from now on will be held three times a year, reliable sources have indicated.

The next meeting of Central American foreign ministers will be held in Managua on 20, 21 and 22 June. This information was provided by Foreign Minister D'Escoto during an interview with our correspondent in San Jose:

[Begin recording--in progress] [Question] [Words indistinct] the differences between what is happening in Nicaragua and developments elsewhere, more specifically in Guatemala. I would like to know whether these differences have been appreciable [words indistinct] the various discussions (held) here in San Jose.

[Answer] Although it is true that differences might and in fact do exist, preventing greater cooperation, I still think we are advancing appreciably toward greater understanding and mutual respect and the integration we are so interested in.

As you know, this is the first meeting of Central American foreign ministers held this year. We have now institutionalized our meetings and as of tomorrow, the minute this meeting closes, the Secretariat of the Central American Foreign Ministries' Council will be transferred to Nicaragua, where we will prepare our second meeting, slated for 20 to 22 June this year in Managua.

[Question] [words indistinct] the existing differences and Nicaragua's situation as a result of its revolution is of particular interest, since it is requesting preferential treatment (in order to achieve development). Have we achieved anything specific in connection with this?

[Answer] Yes, this afternoon the foreign ministers will declare that they demand the right to support Nicaragua in all that concerns its economic reactivation plan and they will ask their respective economy and planning ministries to collaborate as broadly as possible. They have also expressed their firm determination to support Nicaragua at the international forums and organizations in all that has to do with the renegotiation of our foreign debt.

[Question] [words indistinct] at this meeting the difficult situation posed by the (freezing) of the important credits that the United States was to have granted?

[Answer] No, that is something the United States must resolve.

SECURITY FORCES LINK COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PLOT WITH CIA

PA181743 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] A plot by the Eli Altamirano group has been uncovered. They were planning to seize land and to promote factory strikes. They were armed. State security forces have presented documents that show that plans of the Eli Altamirano group coincide with CIA maneuvers.

That political faction had been usurping the name of the Workers' International Party and was working with the Workers Front. They still have arms.

Counterrevolutionary bands directed by the Central of Labor Action and Unity [CAUS] and the CIA wanted to stop production in the country in the month of March. This statement was made by the state security chief, Companero Lenin Cerna. Arms, documents and much evidence obtained on the activities of this Eli Altamirano group were exhibited.

SERGIO RAMIREZ HEADS DELEGATION VISITING AUSTRIA

For Austrian coverage of the visit of a delegation seeking technical aid, see the the Austria section of the 20 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

ROBELO SPEAKS AT IAPA ROUNDTABLE ON COUNTRY'S CONDITION

PA182014 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[William Cespedes report on roundtable of Inter-American Press Association at National Theatre in San Jose--live]

[Excerpt] Alfonso Robelo, a member of the Nicaraguan reconstruction government junta, has just spoken. We are going to play a recording of an excerpt of his speech.

[Begin Robelo Recording] [in progress]...which should lead to an authentic democracy in which the Nicaraguans will freely choose their rulers, to the extent that we reach that objective of finding justice and freedom, to the extent that we achieve a truly Nicaraguan process, to that extent we will be fulfilling that responsibility and fulfilling the people's aspirations. [end recording]

Robelo stressed that the People's Council will be installed on 4 May and that the control which the government maintains over the communications systems his country will be lifted in April. Robelo also said his government has decided to maintain relations with most of the world's countries.

He said there will be a distinction between private and state property, and that systems of mixed property will be established. Robelo said 40 percent of the gross national product is produced by the government and 60 percent by private enterprise. He indicated that private enterprise continues to be an important factor in Nicaragua's development. He said an economic reactivation plan will be implemented. He said foreign trade, banks, mines and insurance companies have been nationalized.

Regarding the foreign debt, he said Nicaragua's foreign debt amounts to $1.6 billion and that the Nicaraguan revolution is the first revolution to recognize the foreign debt which is mainly the result of the purchase of arms. Robelo said that 52 percent of the population over 10 is illiterate.

CARTER MOVES TO LIFT CIA RESTRICTIONS NOTED

FL200119 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Mar 80 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] A decision recently adopted by the U.S. Supreme Court considerably limits the right of government officials to write about their job experiences. The measure aims to stop the wave of denunciations that former CIA agents are making about the dubious and criminal actions of that organization. The first victim of that decision has been Frank Snepp, one of the CIA's principal agents in Saigon during the Yankee occupation, who has written and published a book called DECENT INTERVAL in which he reveals details about the North Americans' last days in Vietnam and their flight in face of the victorious drive of the Vietnamese Army. Snepp had his earnings from the book frozen and he has been warned that if he wants to publish another he has written on the CIA, he will have to submit it to the CIA beforehand for its approval. These events are part of the reactionary offensive of the Washington government which is trying to silence at all costs all those who might uncover the immoral and unethical character of U.S. foreign policy.

Philip Agee, a former CIA agent, a few years ago denounced the criminal and amoral character of the agency in its secret operations against countries and politicians outside the United States. Since then, Agee has written several books and is the author of articles that have appeared in many publications. He is also an adviser for the U.S. magazine COVERT ACTION INFORMATION BULLETIN. Recently, in collaboration with (Luis Bull), Agee published two books entitled DIRTY WORK [as heard]. The first one concerns Western Europe and the second the African Continent. In both, the authors unmask the CIA and list the agency's undercover agents working in those two continents.

Not too long ago, the fact that Agee had obtained a copy of a secret document written by CIA Director William Colby under the title "1976-1981 Intelligence Prospects" caused quite a stir. The document was carried by COVERT ACTION late last year. The greatest concern of the Washington government and the CIA is that Agee was able to obtain this document years after he had stopped working for the agency.

At present, the Carter government is waging an intensive campaign to make Congress lift the legislative restrictions on the CIA's secret operations that resulted from public indignation over the disclosure of these operations. In the campaign unleashed by Carter and his top advisers to torpedo detente, revive the cold war and the policy of positions of strength and blackmail, and to make Yankee hegemony prevail over the world, the CIA is a very valuable aid.

COVERT ACTION charged late last year that the CIA had penetrated the mass communications media in almost all parts of the world. Over 1,000 newsmen are CIA agents outside the United States. They are in charge of obtaining and preparing tendentious and false reports to be placed in hundreds of newspapers and magazines in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. For this manipulation of the press, the CIA has a budget of $265 million, which is almost $100 million more than the total budget of the U.S. news agencies, AP and UPI, put together.

Behind all this is Carter's adviser for national security Zbigniew Brzezinski, who is for giving the CIA a free hand to carry out its undercover operations and to act without restraint in the application of secret plans which include destabilization, calumny, distortion and assassination of revolutionary leaders.

The aggressive policy currently being practiced by the United States includes the CIA's activities in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Iran, its gross intervention in Afghanistan's internal affairs, its destabilizing tactics in Jamaica and Grenada, and other acts of this espionage and crime apparatus of imperialism. That is why Carter is trying by all means possible to ward off denunciations of the CIA and to give it absolute freedom to meddle in the internal affairs of other states and to commit all kinds of crimes and wrongdoings.

ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ

FL191037 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the councils of State and Ministers, yesterday received Paulo Teixeira Jorge, minister of foreign relations of the People's Republic of Angola and member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. During the talks the international situation and the nonalined countries movement were examined in detail, giving special attention to the victory of the Zimbabwe patriotic forces. Also participating in the meeting were first Vice Foreign Minister Rene Anillo, Cuban Ambassador to Angola Rafael Francia Mestre and Carlos Martinez Salsamendi, adviser to the vice president of the Council of State.

President Visits Isle of Youth

FL191526 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1405 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] The president of the People's Republic of Angola and the MPLA-Labor Party, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, today at 0935 hours arrived in the Isle of Youth accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the councils of State and Ministers. The residents of the special municipality who had gathered at the local Rafael Cabrera Mustelier Airport from the very early morning hours accorded a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the visitors.

Visits Schoolchildren

FL191854 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] During their tour of the Isle of Youth, the presidents of Angola and Cuba, Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Fidel Castro, respectively, visited the Carlos Fonseca Amador rural basic secondary school, where a young student read a welcoming communique. The presence of students from Nicaragua, Angola and other countries in the Isle of Youth is evidence of the internationalist solidarity of the Cuban revolution, the document said. Afterwards, Nicaraguan youths dressed in their national costume performed a folk dance from that sister Latin American nation. Fidel and Dos Santos then visited the installations and talked to the students. Students we are, technicians we will be, Sandinists forever, chanted the young Nicaraguans as the delegation walked among them.

Solidarity With Nicaragua Stressed

FL192201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2105 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] When it was decided to visit the Isle of Youth where more than 2,000 Angolan youths are studying, President [Jose] Eduardo dos Santos said he also wanted to visit the Nicaraguan school as a symbol of friendship between Angola and Cuba [as heard], Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said. During the ceremony held at the Carlos Fonseca Amador rural secondary basic school at the end of their tour of the installations, Fidel said that although the visit was brief, we are taking with us unforgettable memories of this school.

Not many words are needed to express the feelings of solidarity and friendship between the peoples of Cuba and Nicaragua, the first secretary of our party said. He later added: We witnessed the long struggle of the Nicaraguan people to destroy Somozism and we know that this battle had the participation of men, women, young people, the elderly and children. We know that many of the students now here participated as members of the Sandinist Front and that they have now taken to their books for which will and abnegation are needed, Fidel said at the brief ceremony at the school in the Isle of Youth, where young Nicaraguans study. No wonder this school bears the name of Carlos Fonseca Amador, an example of will, abnegation, steadfastness and heroism, the Cuban chief of state emphasized. Our commander in chief added: We know that you will be equal to the thousands of young fighters who fell to make Nicaragua free. Fidel said: I urge you to go on forward with that beautiful motto of free fatherland or death, a twin of the Angolan slogan, the struggle continues, victory is certain and ours, fatherland or death. We shall win.

The delegation headed by Fidel and Jose Eduardo dos Santos arrived at the former Model Prison at 1050 in the morning. The Cuban chief of state gave a short account to the Angolan leader of the time when, following the Moncada assault, the young people of the centennial generation were imprisoned there. Both heads of state signed the visitors' book.

Speaking to the Radio Reloj [name of newscast] reporter in front of the old Model Prison, one of the members of the Angolan delegation, (Salvador Sebastian), recalled the many years he was a prisoner of the fascist Portuguese police. Later the group visited the citrus plant and the Henry (Witboy) rural basic secondary school for Namibian students, where Fidel expressed admiration and affection for the Namibian people. The delegation visiting the Isle of Youth arrived in Nueva Gerona at 0935 this morning.

TEACHERS CONTINGENT IN ANGOLA COMMENDED

FL181127 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Mar 80 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee members Jose Ramon Fernandez, minister of education, and Asela de los Santos yesterday afternoon held a meeting with a group of vanguard members of the second contingent of the Ernesto Che Guevara internationalist teacher detachment who are working in Angola. During the meeting Fernandez congratulated the vanguard members for their outstanding effort and asked them to convey to all units his greetings. He also urged them to work with dedication and efficiency in all educational tasks and to be examples of revolutionary behavior and attitude.

'CRITICAL SPIRIT' TO PREVAIL AT UPEC CONGRESS

FL192349 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] For Analytic, Militant, and Creative Journalism, is the slogan of the fourth congress of our Union of Cuban Journalists [UPEC] which is to take place 27-29 March at the Palace of Conventions in Havana City. This afternoon, UPEC Secretary General Ernesto Vera held a press conference to inform about some matters concerning the organization of the congress. Vera pointed out that for many years the UPEC has been working on the political, cultural and technical level of journalists but, he added, this is not enough--that mechanisms have to be set up for our work to reach the working people and that this subject should be extensively debated by the delegates.

The congress will be attended by 409 delegates from all over the country and they will make up four work committees that will meet on the evening of the 27th and on the 28th. UPEC's top leader said that we will acquire more experience and a capacity for analysis in this congress and that above all, a critical spirit will prevail in relation to what has been left undone.

DEVELOPMENT OF CARICOM INDUSTRIAL BASE URGED

FL191509 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr P J Patterson, has called for more systematic development of the industrial base within the CARICOM region in order for the Caribbean to benefit more fully from trade with countries outside of the region. The deputy prime minister was speaking yesterday at the opening of a 3-day seminar on investments and exports promotion in the Caribbean, sponsored by the Small Business Marketing Agency, Limited. He called for a pooling of the region's manufacturing capacity and for a common investment toll.

Mr Patterson said that instead of cropping equivalent goods among themselves, the countries of the region should address seriously the matter of rationalization of agricultural and industrial efforts on the basis of available raw materials and local resources.

The seminar continues today and will have a final session tomorrow afternoon.

CARICOM CONSIDERS ADMISSION OF HAITI

FL191505 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Sources at the Georgetown-based CARICOM Secretariat have said that Haiti's chances of being admitted to the 12-nation Caribbean Community are still [words indistinct] at this stage. The CARICOM Council of Ministers will again consider the French-speaking Caribbean nation's application for membership when it meets in Guyana next week. Since Haiti applied to join CARICOM at the inaugural heads of government summit in St Lucia in 1974, the application has been under constant consideration by the council. But according to the sources, member countries still feel that there should be a deepening of the integration in the region. This, they said, was a key factor militating against Haiti's move to join CARICOM. The sources [words indistinct] have agreed that work should continue on the identification of commodities which CARICOM could trade with Haiti.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL MEETING TO BE HELD 26-29 MAR

PA191459 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0916 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 19 Mar (EFE)--Former FRG Chancellor Willy Brandt will chair the first regional conference of the Socialist International for Latin America, which will be held here from 26 to 29 March.

Representatives and delegates of more than 50 member countries of the Social Democratic organization will participate together with Brandt in the vent. The conference, which is organized by the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PARD), will discuss the development and strategy of the Socialist International in Latin America and the Caribbean.

According to Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, president of the Socialist International for Latin America and the Caribbean, the conference will be attended by member parties from Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and outstanding personalities of the United States and Canada.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT REPORTS JOBLESS RATE DOWN

FL171040 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 80 p 3 FL

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 10 Mar (CANA)--The Grenada Government yesterday said it had brought about a steep reduction in unemployment and promised an end to illiteracy, but held out no hope for quick introduction of a new revolutionary constitution to replace one suspended when Maurice Bishop's New Jewel Movement seized power in the coup last March 13.

Unemployment, running at an estimated 49 per cent before the coup, has been reduced by 14 per cent, government spokesman Phyllis Coard told a press briefing. Mrs Coard, deputy secretary for information, said 2,000 jobs had been created in the last year and this significantly affected youth unemployment, which had been estimated in pre-revolutionary times at 80 per cent.

A further reduction is projected largely through agro-industrial expansion, the proposed expansion of the tourist sector and a number of other projects now in the pipeline, including the construction of a US$45 million international airport.

The People's Revolutionary Government is this year introducing a major island-wide adult literacy programme. Mrs Coard said: "We are determined to wipe illiteracy out and fast. The illiteracy rate has been estimated at 35 per cent.

She told reporters that introduction of a new constitution reflecting the needs and aspirations of Grenadians was less of a priority that improving the economy.

Any such introduction would also have to come after Grenadians had been mentally prepared for it, she said.

"If we send a constitution around (for public comment) nobody is going to look at it", she said. "People are now too busy participating in community projects and in helping to improve the economy to worry about a constitution", she added.

JAMAICA

CULTURAL AGRREMENTS WITH CUBA RENEWED

FL191333 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1320 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The governments of Cuba and Jamaica have renewed their cultural exchange agreement with the signing last night of a third program covering cooperation in areas such as literature, dance, theater, music and films. The agreement was signed at Jamaica House with the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Mr Arnold Bertram, representing the Jamaican Government and people and the special adviser to the Cuban minister of culture, Senor Miguel Sanchez, signing for Cuba. During the brief signing ceremony Mr Bertram emphasized the close relations which have existed between Cuba and Jamaica over the years, stating that the cultural exchanges were an important deepening of that friendship. Senor Sanchez said that previous agreements have worked well and expressed appreciation to the Jamaican Government and peoples for making the exchanges possible. The cultural agreements between Jamaica and Cuba have been renewed every 3 years since they started in 1975. Among those witnessing the signing were the Cuban ambassador to Jamaica, Senor Ulises Estrada, and Mr (Neville George) of the Institute of Jamaica.

MANLEY MEETS WITH VISITING PIERRE TRUDEAU

FL192312 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Manley and the [word indistinct] Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau met today for luncheon at the (Prospect Estate) just outside Ocho Rios, where Mr Trudeau is staying. Unofficial talks between the two are expected to cover current initiatives to have a meeting of world leaders to discuss the proposed new economic order, hemispheric and regional questions as well as relations between Jamaica and Canada. Mr Trudeau, who is on a week's private visit to Jamaica, has vacationed here on more than one occasion. Yesterday he paid a surprise visit to Portland, where he took his three sons rafting on the Rio Grande. The Canadian prime minister and his sons are expected to leave the island sometime this weekend.

MARTINIQUE

FRANCE CAN MEET 'ANY THREATS' ON TROUBLED ISLAND

LD171043 Paris FRANCE-SOIR in French 14 Mar 80 pp 1, 6 LD

[Jacques de Danne article: "Antilles Crisis: France Suspects Castro"]

[Text] Strikes, demonstrations, violence and sabotage: What is happening in Martinique?

"For about a month, social and economic difficulties have been building up," Secretary of State for Overseas Territories Paul Dijoud explains. "Having been hard hit by two successive cyclones, David and Frederick, the island has of course had Fr300-400 million in aid from France. But it is more than a day's work to restore a devastated agriculture and ruined hotels. While Guadeloupe has been experiencing very positive growth, Martinique has tended to stagnate.

"Investors, deterred by the political and social climate, balk at settling there, which does not help matters."

The social climate: Paul Dijoud recognizes that the situation is difficult. Severe strikes are on the increase. There is no respect for the law.

To Meet the Threats

"There have been serious attacks on the freedom to work," the secretary of state explains: "Strike pickets, violence against nonstrikers, and employee occupation of an insurance company's offices, where they sabotaged all the data processing equipment."

The political climate: Paul Dijoud deplores the present unacceptable rise of racism. "This is part of the strategy of those seeking independence, who denounce what they call genocide by replacement. They accuse the public authorities of sending young Martinicans to metropolitan France to be replaced by Frenchmen. All this furthers aggressiveness, especially in Fort-de-France. There are no statistics to show the ratio of metropolitan French to Martinicans among the island's 325,000 inhabitants. As an overseas department, absolutely everyone in Martinique is French."

Who, in fact, are these demonstrators, these independence-mongers? They talk a lot about Cuban influence in this part of the world. "I have no formal proof of this," Paul Dijoud states. "Castro supporters are increasingly active in that part of the world. [paragraph continues]

But you can suspect that the independence advocates enjoy Castro's political and financial support. I am sure that the Martinique Communist Party and the Martinique Progressive Party have the same kind of relationship with Cuba as the PCF has with Moscow. But that is all: We have not seen any armed support. Moreover, France has the means to meet any threats which might arise. Let us not forget that metropolitan intervention regiments could land in Martinique in 10 hours. Fortunately, we have not come to that.

"For the moment, the three or four squadrons of gendarmes will suffice to keep order."

No Question of Leaving

"What we can say is that, at the moment, we are watching an attempt to internationalize a demand for independence. Hence the concern expressed by the silent majority: Is France going to leave Martinique? There is clearly no question of that. The island is an integral part of the republic which is by definition one and indivisible. In any event, we are a long way from a Corsican-type situation, with its almost daily outrages. The Martinican mentality is far too different to come to that: It is not the country's style."

The secretary of state asserts that most Martinicans are resolutely opposed to independence: They are conscious of living on French soil. But if we want to pacify those who are getting angry, this American department of France must be given greater responsibility, and we must pursue decentralization which, according to Paul Dijoud, "will assert itself for geographic reasons alone. Fort-de-France is more than 7,000 km from Paris, and not all the files can regularly reach the capital."

Fr12 Billion per Year

Confronted by active minorities which some say are "closely linked to Cuba," France will therefore assume its responsibilities. "Thanks to its overseas territories," he says, "our country is the world's third-largest maritime power. You can see what that means, at a time when the development of fishing and the exploitation of the oceans are about to become one of mankind's greatest resources."

To those who say that these departments and territories cost the taxpayer dearly, Paul Dijoud replies:

"It is true that metropolitan France pours Fr12 billion per year into the overseas departments and territories. But you must bear in mind what they bring in return, not merely in terms of money. Ultimately, it is impossible to put the balance in figures. But it is certainly more favorable to metropolitan France than some would like to pretend."

ST KITTS-NEVIS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH VENEZUELA

FL192104 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Venezuela has assured the new administration in St Kitts-Nevis of its intention to maintain existing close links with the twin-island state. An instrument of cooperation to this effect was signed in Basseterre, capital of St Kitts, by Premier Kennedy Simmonds and Venezuela's Ambassador to the Lesser Antilles (Dr A. Aguilar). Premier Simmonds said he was happy to continue the cooperation which was started by the former administration with the Venezuelan Government. The Venezuelan official said his country was willing to give help wherever possible.